



Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve

Geologic Resources Inventory

Sensitive GIS Data Explanation, January 27, 2022

Sensitive geologic-Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data related to Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is delivered in data package Zip (zip) files. These data are a product of the NPS Geologic Resources Inventory (GRI) program, which is funded by the Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) Division and administered by the NPS Geologic Resources Division (GRD). The sensitive data, mine point features, should not be distributed outside the NPS.

Sensitive digital geologic-GIS data for Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve consist of a dedicated park map providing complete coverage of the park and surrounding area. Data files for the dedicated park map are named using the park four-letter code (TAPR) as a prefix. The text “_sensitive” is appended to all data files names that are directly related to or possess sensitive data.

Sensitive geologic -GIS data are provided in the following GRI-supported GIS data formats 1.) ESRI file geodatabase format, and 2.) Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) geopackage format for use in QGIS (or other OGC software), and upon request in 3.) ESRI shapefile format (contact Stephanie O’Meara, see contact information below, to acquire geopackage or shapefile format data).

Sensitive data package Zip files containing the different GRI-supported GIS data formats are identified with following file suffixes: 1.) ESRI file geodatabase for use in ArcGIS Pro have a file suffix of "gdb_pro_sensitive.zip", 2.) ESRI file geodatabase for use in ArcGIS ArcMap have a file suffix of "gdb_sensitive.zip", 3.) OGC geopackage data have a file suffix of "gpkg_sensitive.zip", and if requested 4.) shapefile data have a file suffix of "shp_sensitive.zip".

The ArcGIS Pro data package ZIP file has an ESRI file geodatabase and a Pro map (.mapx) file, as well as Pro layer (.lyrx) files. The ArcGIS ArcMap data package ZIP file has an ESRI file geodatabase, and a 10.1 map document (.mxd) file, as well as 10.1 layer (.lyr) files. Pro map (.mapx) files and ArcMap map document (.mxd) files present sensitive GRI geologic data layers and relevant GRI GIS tables complete with data layer naming, symbology and labeling for viewing and data analysis. The Pro layer (.lyrx) and ArcMap layer (.lyr) files are provided so data layers can be added to a new or existing Pro map (.mapx) file or ArcMap map document (.mxd) file, respectively, with their associated layer naming, symbology and labeling. All data package ZIP files also contain a FGDC-compliant metadata file (in .txt format).

In addition to a data package ZIP file, three additional files comprise a GRI digital geologic-GIS map: 1.) this file (tapr_geology_gis_readme_sensitive.pdf), 2.) the GRI ancillary map information document (.pdf) file (tapr_geology.pdf), which contains geologic unit descriptions, as well as other ancillary map information and graphics from the source maps used by the GRI in the production of this park’s GRI digital geologic-GIS data, and 3.) a user-friendly FAQ PDF version of the metadata (e.g., tapr_geology_metadata_faq_sensitive.pdf).

For a GIS dataset, the GRI recommends extracting all map files from a data package to its own folder. This is particularly of importance for file geodatabase data packages as an associated Pro map file (.mapx) and related layer (.lyrx) files, or ArcMap map document (.mxd) and related ArcMap layers (.lyr) files, all have relative file paths set to their file geodatabase.

Detailed information concerning the source data used by the GRI is listed in the Source Citation sections(s) of the included map metadata record (e.g., tapr_geology_metadata_sensitive.txt). Information

concerning source data is also in the Source Map Information GIS table (taprmap) and repeated in the GRI ancillary map information document (.pdf) file.

The OGC geopackage data can be accessed using QGIS software. The software is available for free at: <https://www.qgis.org/en/site/>.

Users of this data are cautioned about the locational accuracy of features and should not assume that features are exactly where they portrayed in ArcGIS, QGIS or other software used to display the data. Refer to the positional accuracy report and use constraints within a map metadata record for additional information concerning the positional accuracy of features in a GRI dataset.

For detailed information regarding GIS parameters such as data attribute field definitions, attribute field codes, value definitions, and rules that govern relationships found in the data, refer to the NPS Geology-GIS Data Model document, gri_gdb_ggdm_v2dot3.pdf (available at: <https://www.nps.gov/articles/gri-geodatabase-model.htm>).

GRI digital geologic-GIS data are available at the NPS Data Store Search Application: <http://irma.nps.gov/App/Reference/Search>. To find GRI data for a specific park or parks select the appropriate park(s), enter "GRI" as a Search Text term, and then select the Search Button.

For a complete listing of Geologic Resources Inventory products and direct links to the download site, visit the GRI products webpage: http://go.nps.gov/gri_products.

For more information about the Geologic Resources Inventory Program visit the GRI webpage: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/geology/gri.htm>. At the bottom of that webpage is a "Contact Us" link if you need additional information. You may also directly contact the program coordinator:

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To provide feedback or to inquire about the use of GRI products, contact Jason Kenworthy (contact information listed above).

For information about using and/or obtaining GRI digital geologic-GIS data, contact:

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